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Diana T Fritz 02/05/2007 04:02:24 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

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Text:

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 04215

SIPDIS
CXABU:

ACTION: CONS
INFO: POL AMB DCM

DISSEMINATION: CONS
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: AMB:MJSISON
DRAFTED: POL:JMAYBURY
CLEARED: DCM:RALBRIGHT, CON:RDOLCE, LEGAT:DROGGENBUCK

VZCZCADI652
OO RUEHC RUEHAE RUEHNR RUEHKH
DE RUEHAD #4215 3281207
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 231207Z NOV 04
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6895
INFO RUEHAE/AMEMBASSY ASMARA 0054
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 0100
RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 0008

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 004215

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PREL](#) [CASC](#) [SU](#) [TC](#)
SUBJECT: SUDANESE OPPOSITION FIGURE DEPORTED

¶1. (U) On November 23, the UAE deported Sudanese opposition figure Abdul Aziz Khalid Osman on the basis of an Interpol Red Notice from Sudan. Osman is wanted by Sudan for alleged sabotage against Sudanese oil installations in 1999. Osman is the former head of the Sudanese Alliance Forces, one of the military elements of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), a group that has been working since 1995 to overthrow the regime of President Omar Al Bashir. In June 2000, Bashir issued an amnesty for acts of sabotage inside and outside of Sudan, however, the amnesty was conditional on individuals returning to Sudan. Osman, who lives in Cairo, was arrested on September 23 at Abu Dhabi airport on the basis of an Interpol Red Notice and turned over to the state prosecutor. Our sources indicated that he was turned over to Sudanese authorities and boarded a direct flight to Sudan on November 23.

¶2. (U) Human Rights Watch wrote UAE President Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed asking for Osman,s immediate release. Human Rights Watch said that the Sudanese government,s extradition request was &a politically motivated attempt to deny8 Osman,s right to free expression, association and movement. According to Human Rights Watch, Osman had traveled to the UAE to give lectures and hold meetings. The NGO said the NDA, based in Eritrea, is now inactive.

¶3. (SBU) Osman,s case came to Post,s attention in mid-October when his Amcit daughter and wife wrote to the Ambassador appealing for USG intervention with the UAEG. Although Osman is not a U.S. citizen, our Consul has met with the UAE Attorney General and made regular inquiries on behalf of the Amcit family regarding Osman,s well-being while he has been in custody. We have also kept the CA/OCS, AF/RSA, AF/SE, NEA/ARPI, and Embassies Khartoum and Asmara, informed about the status of his case. While media reports that this

case was handled by the public prosecutor, we understand that the Ministry of Interior weighed in strongly regarding the final decision on this case, citing the UAEG's international obligation associated with the underlying Interpol Notice.

14. (U) Khartoum minimize considered.
SISON